These requirements are largely being met by the existing Kendriya Vidyalayas. Government has also sanctioned 50 new Kendriya Vidyalayas to meet the educational needs of children in the Special Focus districts.

Using school children as crowds

2453. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBSE has issued any recent circular advising, cautioning and warning schools not to use school children as crowds for any function;

(b) if so, the details and dates of such circulars issued by CBSE;

(c) whether any effort has been made by CBSE to particularly monitor Government schools all over the country in this regard;

(d) what new initiatives the CBSE will take to ensure that children are not ill treated; and

(e) the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D.PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. CBSE has issued a circular dated 10th March, 2005 containing instructions to all its affiliated schools for ensuring the safety of students during conduct of events/programmes by the schools. The circular provides the following guidelines:—

(i) Duration of programmes should be informed to students/parents in advance.

(ii) The students may not be allowed to stand for long hours either in hot Sun or in cold weather.

(iii) Adequate arangements to be made for protected drinking water facilities to them and for public convenience whenever necessary.

(iv) Necessary facilities to be seated or to gather in a shade or shamiana be arranged.

(v) Arrangements may be made for transportation from the school venue and back.

(c) Yes, Sir. These guidelines are applicable to all Government and private schools affiliated to the Board.

(d) and (e) CBSE has issued detailed guidelines about the safeguards to be adopted by the schools which are as follows:—

(i) No child should be subjected to any form of corporal punishment at any point of time in the schooling process.

(ii) Principals to provide timely and regular interventions to reduce the stress on children through counseling.

(iii) Regular e-counseling and tele-counseling to students before and during examinations and after the results are announced.

(iv) Regular induction courses and special leadership training programmes for the Principals. Teachers training in different subjects as an ongoing process across the country.

Activities of NCTE

2454. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major activities of National Council for Teachers' Education; and

(b) how many educational institutions have submitted the applications for startin B. Ed course for 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Council for Teacher Education came into being by an Act of Parliament (NCTE Act, 1993) and was established on 17th August, 1995. 1995 to achieve planned and coordinated development of teacher education and regulate and maintain norms and standards in the teacher education system in the country.

It grants recognition to teacher training institutions for various courses, lays down norms and standards for any specified category of course or training in teacher education and prepares guidelines in respect of minimum qualifications for a person to be employed as a teacher in schools. The Council also lays down criteria for admission and standards